(b) the reasons for less procurement, if any?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) A statement is attached. (*See* below)

(b) The reason for the lower procurement is that the wheat crop in the major wheat producing States suffered some damage due to unseasonal rains and the damaged wheat could not be purchased by the procuring agencies as it did not conform to the prescribed specifications.

Statement

Procurement of Wheet during May an June, 1987

(in Lakh tonnes)

State	Directly by FCI	By all agencies including FCI
Delhi . . .	Neg.	Neg.
Haryana . .	2·63	9·12
Madhya Pradesh .	Neg.	Neg.
Punjab . . .	9·07	19·12
Rajasthan . .	0·55	0·55
Uttar Pradesh .	0·80	8·11
All India . .	13·05	36·90

Neg.: Below 500 tonnes.

Black marketing of imported coconut oil in Maharashtra

733. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coconut oil imported by the Central Government and allotted to the Maharashtra Government was sold in the black market;

(b) whether it is also a fact that guidelines issued by the Central Government for distribution of coconut oil through Consumer Co-operative Societies at retail level were flouted and if so, the particulars of those responsible for it; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to punish such bogus co-operatives and enforce a genuine Consumer Co-operative employment?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) According to Government of Maharashtra, complaints have been received about misutilisation of the coconut oil, imported by the Central Government in 1984 and allotted to Maharashtra State, by some of the cooperative societies.

(b) and (c) Guidelines were issued by the Central Government in respect of the price of the oil and about its distribution to consumers in the same manner as in the case of other small packs of imported edible oils. The State Government issued instructions to allottee societies to sell the stocks to consumers at prescribed rates and these instructions are found to have been violated by some of the societies. Necessary action has been initiated by the State Government against the defaulting societies through police and Registrar of Cooperative Societies.

Financial assistance to Maharashtra for drought

734. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance released to the State of Maharashtra to meet the drought expenditure particularly to provide drinking water, fodder for animals and food to create employment for the drought

affected population through Employment Guarantee Scheme during 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) what was the financial assistance asked for by the State Government for drought during 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the wide dissatisfaction towards meagre allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Government of Maharashtra have been sanctioned the following amounts to meet the drought situation during 1985-86 and 1986-87:

(*Rs. in crore*)

	1985-86	1986-87
Total ceiling of expenditure approved	65·56	97·24
Drinking water .	22·54	57·33
Fodder . . .	0·95	3·47
Employment Generation works . .	21·50	21·82

No amount has been sanctioned by Centre for Employment Guarantee Scheme as it is a State level scheme.

(b) The State Government had asked for central assistance of Rs. 445.88 crore for 1985-86 and Rs. 553.01 crore for 1986-87.

(c) The quantum of Central assistance is determined with reference to clearly laid down procedure and norms and is not affected by any subjective considerations. On the basis of the recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief based on the findings of Central study teams, which examined the memoranda of the State Govt., according to prescribed norms, ceilings of expenditure for purposes of Central assistance were approved by the Central Government.

Loss of NCCF

735. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NCCF has incurred a loss of Rs. 10 crores, a loan of Rs. 4.50 crores and also the loss of its total invested capital of Rs. 5.50 crores due to various irregularities and malpractice committed by its employees, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) how many involved employees are facing criminal charges in courts of law and how many of them are still working in NCCF?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) According to the audited accounts, National Cooperative Consumers Federation incurred a total loss of Rs. 6.46 crores during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86. The accounts for 1986-87 (ending June, 1987) are yet to be finalised and audited. The losses have been mainly due to the overall mismanagement of the affairs of the NCCF couples with cases of irregularities and malpractices.

(b) Two employees are facing criminal trial in the court of law and are presently under suspension.

Officers involved in irregularities in distribution of sugar by NCCF, Lucknow

736. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply of Starred Question 249 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th March, 1987 and to state:

(a) the names of the employees of NCCF involved in irregularities and charges against each of them; and